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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/836,271	04/18/2001	Susumu Honma	109295	5481

25944 7590 10/20/2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. BOX 19928
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320

EXAMINER

HAMILTON, MONPLAISIR G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2135

DATE MAILED: 10/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/836,271

Applicant(s)

HONMA ET AL.

Examiner

Monplaisir G Hamilton

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 June 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-15 were pending. The communication filed on 6/08/2004 amended Claims 2-3, 7-8, 12-13 and added new Claims 16-20. Claims 1-20 remain for examination.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 6/08/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues: "OmniForm fails to disclose (1) the combination of features recited in claim 1 including, inter alia, database defining means for defining a database based on the table extracted by the table extraction means, and data input form generation means for generating a database-related data input form related with the database by relating the table included in the data input form accepted by the data input form acceptance means with the database defined by the database defining means; (2) the combination of features recited in claim 6 including, inter alia, defining a database based on the extracted table, and generating a database-related data input form related with the database by relating the table included in the accepted data input form with the defined database; and (3) the combination of features recited in claim 11 including, inter alia, defining a database based on the extracted table, and generating a database-related data input form related with the database by relating the table included in the accepted data input form with the defined database."

Examiner disagrees with applicant. Omniform provides an easy way to convert paper forms (including tables) to electronic forms. Chapter 5 of Omniform discloses that a scanned

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form can be redesigned. Specifically on page 34 an illustration describes how to redesign a form using the design view tools and commands. Once you have created objects, you may want to move, resize, or convert them. You may also want to make changes to a newly scanned or imported form. This section at page 39 further details that tables can be redesigned. Examiner maintains that Omniform discloses the claimed database defining means for defining a database based on the table extracted by the table extraction means. Chapter 7 at 2 discloses OmniForm automatically creates a database when you scan in or import a form. Omniform further details that a database is a collection of information stored as individual records. Each record uses the same form design but can contain different information in its fields. Furthermore Chapter 4 at 4 discloses an Auto Form Design uses Logical Form Recognition in order to recognize text and fillable fields in the form. This gives you full control over a form's design. Graphics are not retained but you can import them. Examiner maintains this disclosure teaches that a form is a collection of fields and that once this collection of fields is scanned a database is created that has the same layout as the scanned form (Chapter 7 at 3).

Moreover, Omniform discloses the claimed generating a database-related data input form related with the database by relating the table included in the data input form accepted by the data input form acceptance means with the database defined by the database defining means. This essentially means that an input form is created and the data input into the form is linked to fields of the database. The scanned form may be filled electronically using the fill view, which allows the information to be saved in the database (Chapter 6 at 2). There is a difference between defining a database and populating a database. Omniform allows the user to first define the database by scanning in the form and saving the layout (Chapter 4 at 5). After this step the

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user may choose to populate the database (fill view) or continue to scan other forms to create a more databases.

Examiner maintains that the claimed invention is unpatentable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 1-15 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Omniiform's User Manual, herein referred to as Omniiform.

Referring to Claims 1, 6 and 11:

Omniiform discloses a data input form generation system comprising: data input form acceptance means for accepting input of a data input form including a table (Chapter 1, page 4, lines 3-5); table extraction means for extracting the table from the data input form accepted by the data input form acceptance means (Chapter 7, page 2, lines 1-5); database defining means for defining a database based on the table extracted by the table extraction means (Chapter 6, page 7, lines 8-10; Chapter 7, page 2, lines 1-5);

data input form generation means for generating a database-related data input form related with the database by relating the table included in the data input form accepted by the data input form acceptance means with the database defined by the database defining means (Chapter 6, page 2, lines 6-9).

Referring to Claims 2, 7, 12, 19 and 20:

Omniiform discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1, 6 and 11 above. Omniiform further discloses the database defining means, uses a portion of data included in the extracted

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table, as a field name of the database, and the portion of data is data included in a first-row cell of the table extracted by the table extraction means (Chapter 6, page 7, lines 8-10).

Referring to Claims 3, 8 and 13:

Omniform discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1, 6 and 11 above. Omniform further discloses the database defining means, uses a portion of data included in the extracted table, as a field name of the database, and the portion of data is data included in a first-column cell of the table extracted by the table extraction means (Chapter 6, page 7, lines 8-10; Chapter 5, page 43, lines 16-20).

Referring to Claims 4, 9 and 14:

Omniform discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1, 6 and 11 above. Omniform further discloses the data input form acceptance means accepts input of the data input form configured as electronic document data (Chapter 4, page 6, lines 1-10).

Referring to Claims 5, 10, and 15:

Omniform discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1, 6 and 11 above. Omniform further discloses the data input form acceptance means accepts input of the data input form recorded onto a recording sheet (Chapter 1, page 3, lines 1-3).

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Referring to Claim 16, 17 and 18:

Omniform discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1, 6 and 11 above. Omniform further discloses when data is inputted into the database-related data input form, the inputted data is inputted to each corresponding field of the database at a substantially same time (Chapter 7, at 3-5).

Final Rejection

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

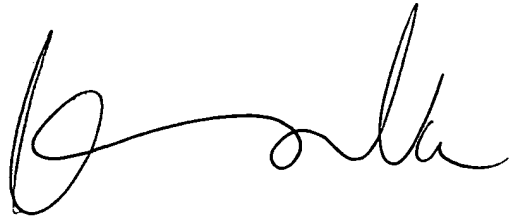
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Monplaisir G Hamilton whose telephone number is (703) 305-5116. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 am - 4:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y Vu can be reached on (703) 305-4393. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Monplaisir Hamilton

Note: TC 2100 will be moved to Carlyle in October 25, 2004, the new telephone number for TC 2100 receptionist is 571-272-2100, my new telephone number is (571) 272-3852 and my supervisor's new number is (571) 272-3859.



KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100